VA NEW ENGLAND HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

RESOURCE HANDBOOK * * * * 2005 * * * *



NETWORK 1

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www.visn1.med.va.gov

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Strategic Planner
Acting Communications
Officer

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Chief Financial Officer Operations
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Chief Information Officer

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Administrative Officer
Ellen Finn

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Mental Health & Rehabilitation Service

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Service Line Director Penny L. Schuckers
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Mary-Ann Bridgwood

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Line Director

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Network Consolidated
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Specialty and Acute Care
Service Line Director
Satish Sharma, MD

Spinal Cord Injury & Pharmacy Benefit Manager Disorders Service Line Sampath Narayana, RPh Director

Director Sunil Sabharwal, MD

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INTRODUCTION



Jeannette Chirico-Post, MD Network Director

Welcome to the VA New England
Healthcare System. Our mission is
to provide high quality, innovative,
comprehensive and compassionate

care along a seamless continuum. We provide these services in fulfillment of our commitment to those who protected and defended our nation's freedom.

The VA New England Healthcare System is comprised of eight VA Medical Centers and 35 Community Based Outpatient Clinics located throughout the six New England States. Network 1 has improved access to care such that we have health care delivery sites within 30 miles of 97% of the veterans served in New England.

We are committed to providing quality health care services to the veterans we serve. Our goal is to provide the right care, at the right time and at the right place

to compassionately meet the unique needs of each veteran. We have a comprehensive program to evaluate the quality of the health care services we deliver.

Network 1 consistently performs in the top tier of Networks on performance measures and we are a leader in customer satisfaction. In the most recent national Customer Service survey results, VA New England Healthcare System exceeded the target for patients satisfied with Overall Quality of care.

This resource handbook will provide you with information about services and programs available to assist you in your health care needs.

Welcome to the VA New England Healthcare System.

Jeannette Chirico-Post, M.D.

Network Director



MISSION STATEMENT & VISION



OUR MISSION

Honor America's veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being.

OUR VISION

To be a patient-centered integrated health care organization for veterans providing excellent health care, research and education; an organization where people choose to work; an active community partner; and a back-up for National emergencies.

CORE VALUES & GOALS

CORE VALUES

Trust

Respect

Excellence

Compassion

Commitment

TOP NETWORK STRATEGIC GOALS FOR 2005

Implement Coordination of Care

To provide patients with coordinated health care with a home telehealth focus to achieve fewer clinic visits and hospital stays.

- Fully Integrate the Specialty and Acute Care Line
 To develop a network-wide structure to improve access and timeliness of specialty services.
- Maintain Fiscal Solvency
 To operate within budget.

★ Enhance Mental Health Programs

To address case management for homeless with mental illness and enhance ability to provide a full range of mental health services and support services.

VA NEW ENGLAND PROFILE

VA NEW ENGLAND HEALTHCARE SYSTEM (VISN 1)

The VA New England Healthcare System is an integrated, health care delivery system that provides comprehensive, high quality, innovative care, in a compassionate manner to eligible veterans.

VA New England Healthcare System includes eight VA Medical Centers located in the six New England states: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

The medical centers include: Togus VAMC (Maine); Manchester VAMC (New Hampshire); White River Junction VAMC (Vermont); Bedford VAMC, VA Boston Healthcare System, Northampton VAMC (Massachusetts); Providence VAMC (Rhode Island); and VA Connecticut Healthcare System (Connecticut). VA New England Healthcare System headquarters is located on the campus of the VA Medical Center, Bedford, Massachusetts.

QUICK FACTS

- ★ The veteran population in the New England area consists of over 1.3 million veterans. The VA New England Healthcare System provides services to 229,000 veterans.
- ★ The Network has an operating budget of over \$1.3 billion.
- The VA New England Healthcare System includes eight medical centers and 35 Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs).







- ★ Throughout New England there are 18 veterans outreach counseling centers, two VA national cemeteries and six veterans benefits offices.
- Annually, there are 26,000 inpatient admissions and over
 2.3 million outpatient visits to VA medical facilities within the Network.
- In the most recent Customer Service survey, VA New England Healthcare System had the highest percentage of outpatients who rated their quality of care as Very Good or Excellent.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES OFFERED

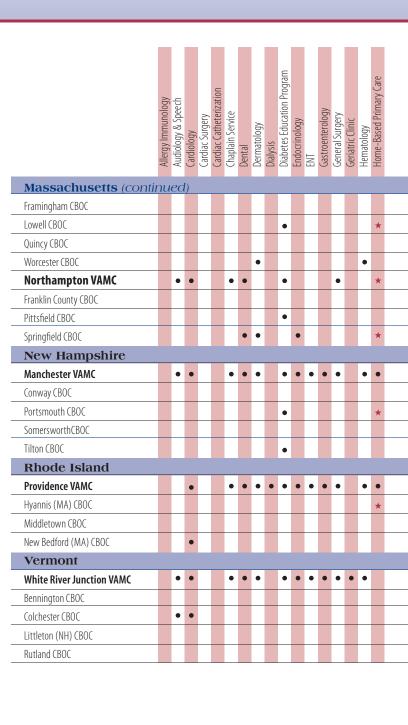
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VA Connecticut Healthcare System																		
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West Haven Campus		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Danbury CBOC																		
New London CBOC																		
Stamford CBOC																		
Waterbury CBOC																		
Windham CBOC																		
Winsted CBOC																		
Maine																		
Togus VAMC		•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
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Calais CBOC																	*	
Caribou CBOC																		
Rumford CBOC																	*	
Saco CBOC																	•	
Massachusetts																		
Bedford VAMC			•			•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
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Gloucester CBOC																		
Haverhill CBOC																		
Lynn CBOC																		
VA Boston Healthcare Syste	em	<u> </u>						<u> </u>										
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West Roxbury Campus		•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	*	
Causeway CBOC																		
Dorchester CBOC																		

• = Available On Site ★ = Future Service CBOC = Community Based Outpatient Clinic



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Infectious Disease	Inpatient Med	Lab Blood Dra	Mental Health Services	Nephrology	Neurology	Nuclear Medicine	Nursing Home Care	Occupational Therapy	Opthalmology 0 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1	Optometry	Palliative Care	Pharmacy	Physical Therapy	Plastic Surgery	Podiatry	Primary Care	Prosthetics	Pulmonary Medicine	Radiation Therapy	Radiology	Recreation Therapy	Rheumatology	Smoking Cess	Spinal Cord Ir	Urology	Vocational Th	Wellness Clinic
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This list is not all inclusive. Please check with your local facility for a complete list of services.																											

HEALTH CARE SERVICES OFFERED



 [■] Available On Site ★ = Future Service CBOC = Community Based Outpatient Clinic

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This list is not all inclusive. Please check with your local facility for a complete list of services.



VA CONNECTICUT HEALTHCARE SYSTEM





DIRECTOR:

Roger Johnson

WOMEN VETERANS COORDINATOR:

Jane Sarja, APRN

CHIEF OF STAFF:

Michael Ebert, MD

MINORITY VETERANS

COORDINATOR:

Billie Rudd

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

FOR OPERATIONS:

Vacant

HOMELESS VETERANS

COORDINATOR: Laurie Harkness, PhD

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR NURSING AND

PATIENT SERVICES: Margaret Veazey, RN, MSN **OPERATION**

IRAOI FREEDOM/ **ENDURING FREEDOM**

COORDINATORS:

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER:

Pamela R. Redmond

Michelle Will Susan Dicker, RN

Susan Hill, MSW

PATIENT ADVOCATES:

Mary Coffelt Mary Harrington Bernadette Kern Joanne Perez

MEDICAL CENTERS (VAMC):

Newington Campus

555 Willard Avenue Newington, CT 06111 Phone: (860) 666-6951

West Haven Campus

950 Campbell Avenue West Haven, CT 06516 Phone: (203) 932-5711



Connecticut

COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS (CBOC):

Danbury CBOC

7 Germantown Road Danbury, CT 06810

Phone: (203) 798-8422

New London CBOC

U.S. Coast Guard Academy 15 Mohegan Avenue New London, CT 06320

Phone: (860) 437-3611

Stamford CBOC

90 Morgan Street Stamford, CT 06924

Phone: (203) 325-0649

Waterbury CBOC

St. Mary's Hospital Medical Office

Building Suite 203

133 Scovill Street

Waterbury, CT 06706 Phone: (203) 465-5292

Windham CBOC

Windham Hospital 96 Mansfield Street

Willimantic, CT 06226 Phone: (860) 450-7583

Winsted CBOC

Winsted Health Center 115 Spencer Street Winsted, CT 06098

Phone: (860) 738-6985

PRIMARY ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS:

- ★ University of Connecticut School of Medicine
- ★ Yale University School of Medicine

CLINICAL PROGRAMS OF EXCELLENCE:

- ★ Eastern Blind Rehabilitation Center
- ★ Renal Dialysis
- ★ Seriously Mentally III

RESEARCH CENTER FOR:

- ★ Schizophrenia
- ★ Alcoholism
- ★ Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- ★ Rehabilitation
- ★ VA/Yale Center for Neuroscience and Nerve Regeneration

NATIONAL CENTER FOR:

- ★ Cooperative Studies Program Coordinating Center (CSPCC)
- ★ Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center (MIRECC)
- ★ Northeast Program Evaluation Center (NEPEC)

TOGUS VA MEDICAL CENTER



DIRECTOR:

John H. Sims, Jr.

CHIEF OF STAFF:

Timothy J. Richardson, MD

NURSE EXECUTIVE:

William M. Harness, RN

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

OFFICER:

Jim Doherty

PATIENT ADVOCATE:

Victoria Cuthbertson

WOMEN VETERANS COORDINATOR:

Kathleen Lyons

MINORITY VETERANS

COORDINATOR:

Kathleen Lyons

HOMELESS VETERANS

COORDINATOR:

Dennis Tully

OPERATION

IRAQI FREEDOM/

ENDURING FREEDOM

COORDINATOR:

Jim Doherty

MEDICAL CENTER (VAMC):

Togus VA Medical Center

1 VA Center

Augusta, ME 04330

Phone: (207) 623-8411 Toll-free: (877) 421-8263

COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS (CBOC):

Bangor CBOC

304 Hancock Street, Suite 3B Bangor, ME 04401 Phone: (207) 561-3600

Calais CBOC

18 Palmer Street Calais, ME 04619 Phone: (207) 454-7849

Caribou CBOC

163 Van Buren Road, Suite 6 Caribou, ME 04736 Phone: (207) 498-8785

Rumford CBOC

431 Franklin Street Rumford, ME 04276 Phone: (207) 369-3200

Saco CBOC

655 Main Street Saco, ME 04072 Phone: (207) 294-3100

PRIMARY ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS:

- ★ Husson College
- ★ Kennebec Valley Technical College
- ★ Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary, Boston, MA
- ★ Tufts School of Medicine
- ★ University of Maine/Augusta
- ★ University of Maine/Orono
- ★ University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, Psychiatry, Allied Health, Biddeford, ME
- ★ University of Southern Maine
- ★ University of Rhode Island

BEDFORD VA MEDICAL CENTER



DIRECTOR:

Karen Waghorn

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ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR:

George R. Poulin

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR NURSING AND

PATIENT SERVICES:

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Karen Kubik

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COORDINATOR:

Kendra Kiely, Lic.SW

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COORDINATOR:

Deborah Outing

HOMELESS VETERANS

COORDINATOR:

Shara Puglisi, Lic.SW

OPERATION

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Karen Kubik

MEDICAL CENTER (VAMC):

Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital

200 Springs Road Bedford, MA 01730 Phone: (781) 275-7500



Massachusetts

COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS (CBOC):

Fitchburg CBOC

Burbank Hospital 275 Nichols Road Fitchburg, MA 01420 Phone: (781) 687-4502

Gloucester CBOC

Addison Gilbert Hospital 298 Washington Street Gloucester, MA 01930 Phone: (781) 687-4402

Haverhill CBOC

108 Merrimack Street Haverhill, MA 01830 Phone: (781) 687-4602

Lowell VCCC

130 Marshall Road Lowell, MA 01852 Phone: (978) 671-9115

Lynn CBOC

225 Boston Road, Suite 107 Lynn, MA 01904 Phone: (781) 687-3567

PRIMARY ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS:

★ Boston University School of Medicine

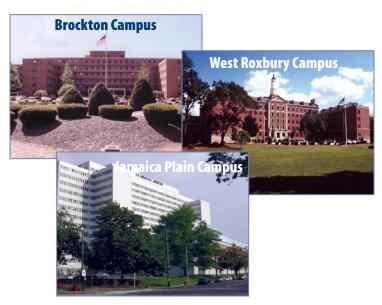
CLINICAL PROGRAMS OF EXCELLENCE:

★ Seriously Mentally III

RESEARCH CENTER FOR:

- ★ Geriatric Research Education Clinical Center (GRECC)
- ★ Health Services Research & Development (HSR&D) National Field Office
- ★ Mental Illness Research Education & Clinical Center (MIRECC Satellite)

VA BOSTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM



DIRECTOR: Michael M. Lawson

CHIEF OF STAFF: Michael E. Charness, MD

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR BOSTON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM: Susan A. MacKenzie, PhD

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, BROCKTON CAMPUS: Christine Croteau (Acting)

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HOMELESS VETERANS COORDINATOR: Gerald Carmichael, LicSW

OPERATION
IRAQI FREEDOM/
ENDURING FREEDOM
COORDINATOR:
Mel Tapper, PhD

Massachusetts

MEDICAL CENTERS (VAMC):

Jamaica Plain Campus

150 South Huntington Ave. Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Phone: (617) 232-9500

West Roxbury Campus

1400 VFW Parkway

West Roxbury, MA 02132 Phone: (617) 323-7700

Brockton Campus

940 Belmont St., Brockton, MA 02301

Phone: (508) 583-4500

COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS (CBOC):

Causeway CBOC

251 Causeway St.

Boston, MA 02130

Phone: (617) 248-1000

Lowell CBOC

130 Marshall Rd.

Lowell, MA 01852 Phone: (978) 671-9000

Dorchester CBOC

895 Blue Hill Ave

Dorchester, MA 02121

Phone: (617) 822-7146

Quincy CBOC

114 Whitwell St.

Quincy, MA 02169 Phone: (617) 376-2010

Framingham CBOC

61 Lincoln St., Suite 112

Framingham, MA 01702

Phone: (508) 628-0205

Worcester CBOC

Lincoln Medical Center

605 Lincoln St., Worcester, MA 01605

Phone: (508) 856-0104

PRIMARY ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS:

★ Boston University School of Medicine ★ Harvard Medical School

CLINICAL PROGRAMS OF EXCELLENCE:

★ Cardiac Surgery (WR)

★ Post Traumatic Stress

Disorder (PTSD) (JP)

RESEARCH CENTER FOR:

★ Center for Innovative

Visual Research

- ★ Environmental Hazards Center: Behavioral Neurotoxicology (JP)
- ★ Schizophrenia Neuroimaging Research

- ★ Seriously Mentally III (BR) ★ Substance Abuse (JP)
 - ★ Women's Health Program (JP)
- ★ Massachusetts Veterans **Epidemiology Research** and Information Center (MAVERIC) (WR/JP)
- ★ National Center for PTSD (JP)
- ★ Spinal Cord Injury Research (WR)

NORTHAMPTON VA MEDICAL CENTER



DIRECTOR:

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ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

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Elizabeth M. Huntley

MEDICAL CENTER (VAMC):

Northampton VA Medical Center

421 North Main St.

Leeds, MA 01053-9764

Phone: (413) 584-4040

WOMEN VETERANS COORDINATOR:

Mary K. Sikoski, RN, MEd

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Robert L. Carroll, MSW

MINORTIY VETERANS COORDINATOR:

Katrena P. Ford

OPERATION

IRAQI FREEDOM/ ENDURING FREEDOM

COORDINATOR:

Elizabeth M. Huntley

Massachusetts

COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS (CBOC):

Franklin County CBOC

Franklin County VA Outpatient Clinic Medical Office Bldg., Suite 9 51 Sanderson St. Greenfield, MA 01301 Phone: (413) 773-8428

Pittsfield CBOC

73 Eagle St. Pittsfield, MA 01201 Phone: (413) 443-4857

Springfield CBOC

25 Bond St. Springfield, MA 01104 Phone: (413) 731-6000

MANCHESTER VA MEDICAL CENTER



DIRECTOR:

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Susan J. Kimmey, RD

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

PATIENT & NURSING

SERVICES:

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS

OFFICER:

James Thompson, MSN, APRN

PATIENT ADVOCATE:

Michelle Wetherbee

MEDICAL CENTER (VAMC):

Manchester VA Medical Center

718 Smyth Road Manchester, NH 03104

Phone: (603) 624-4366

WOMEN VETERANS COORDINATOR:

MINORITY VETERANS COORDINATOR: Gary Rolph, MCS, BCC

HOMELESS VETERANS

James Thompson, MSN, APRN

COORDINATOR:

Jack Campbell, LCSW

COORDINATOR:

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM/ ENDURING FREEDOM

Diana True

Toll-free: (800) 892-8384



New Hampshire

COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS (CBOC):

Conway CBOC

7 Greenwood Avenue Conway, NH 03818 Phone: (603) 447-2555

Portsmouth CBOC

302 Newmarket Street Pease ANGB, NH 03803-0157 Phone: (603) 624-4366 Ext. 5500 Toll-free: (800) 892-8384 Ext. 5500

Somersworth CBOC

200 Route 108 Somersworth, NH 03878 Phone: 603-624-4366 Ext 5700 Toll-free: (800) 892-8384 Ext 5700

Tilton CBOC

New Hampshire State Veterans Home 139 Winter Street, Door #6 Tilton, NH 03276 Phone: (603) 624-4366 Ext. 5600

Phone: (603) 624-4366 Ext. 5600 Toll-free: (800) 892-8384 Ext. 5600

PRIMARY ACADEMIC AFFILIATION:

★ Dartmouth Medical School

RESEARCH CENTER FOR:

- ★ Gulf War Illness
- **★** HDL Intervention
- ★ Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

PROVIDENCE VA MEDICAL CENTER



DIRECTOR:

Vincent Ng

CHIEF OF STAFF:

Allan Erickson, MD

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

FOR OPERATIONS:

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ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

FOR PATIENT CARE:

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CNA, BC

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PATIENT ADVOCATE:

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COORDINATOR:

Tenessa Karmozyn

OPERATION

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COORDINATOR:

Michele Jackson

HOMELESS VETERANS

COORDINATOR:

Richard Synnott

MEDICAL CENTER (VAMC):

Providence VA Medical Center

830 Chalkstone Avenue Providence, RI 02908-4799

Phone: (401) 273-7100

Rhode Island

COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS (CBOC):

Hyannis CBOC

145 Falmouth Road Hyannis, MA 02601 Phone: (508) 771-3190

New Bedford CBOC

175 Elm Street New Bedford, MA 02740 Phone: (508) 994-0217

Middletown CBOC

One Corporate Place West Main Road at Northgate Road Middletown, RI 02842 Phone: (401) 847-6239

PRIMARY ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS:

★ Brown Medical School

RESEARCH CENTER FOR:

- ★ Addictive Behaviors and Psychiatric Disorders
- ★ Cancer Prevention and Treatment
- ★ Center for Restorative and Regenerative Medicine Gulf War Illnesses
- ★ Hypertension and Cardiovascular Diseases
- ★ Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- ★ Pulmonary Diseases
- ★ TREP (Targeted Research Enhancement Program)

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION VA MEDICAL CENTER



DIRECTOR:

Gary M. De Gasta

CHIEF OF STAFF:

Arthur E. Sauvigne, MD

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR:

Donna K. Jacobs

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR NURSING AND PATIENT CARE

SERVICES:

Kate Harty, RN, MSN

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

OFFICER:

Anselm A. Beach

PATIENT ADVOCATE:

Jeffrey T. Bennett

MEDICAL CENTER (VAMC):

White River Junction VAMC

215 North Main St.

White River Junction, VT 05009

WOMEN VETERANS
PROGRAM MANAGER:
B.C. (Bobbie) Surott-Kimberly,

MSW, CTRS

HOMELESS VETERANS COORDINATOR:

Robert E. Rummel

MINORITY VETERANS

COORDINATOR:

Freddie L. Hall

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM/

ENDURING FREEDOM

COORDINATOR:

Wendy J. Decoff

Phone: (802) 295-9363

Vermont

COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINICS (CBOC):

Bennington CBOC

Vermont Veterans Home

325 North St.

Bennington, VT 05201

Phone: (802) 447-6913

Colchester CBOC

Fort Ethan Allen

162 Hegeman Avenue, Unit 100

Colchester, VT 05444

Phone: (802) 655-1356

Littleton CBOC

600 St. Johnsbury Rd. Littleton, NH 03561

Phone: (603) 444-9328

Rutland CBOC

215 Stratton St. Rutland, VT 05702

Phone: (802) 773-3386

PRIMARY ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS:

- ★ Dartmouth Medical School
- ★ University of Vermont Medical School

RESEARCH CENTER FOR:

- ★ Health Services Research (clinical evaluative science, medical outcomes, decision analysis, quality and cost-effective health care, and telehealth)
- ★ Medical Research (HIV, molecular biology, carcinogenesis, immunological interventions, and neurological injury)

NATIONAL CENTERS:

- ★ Executive Division of the National Center for Post Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD)
- ★ Hub Site for the National Quality Scholars Program
- ★ VHA Patient Safety Field Office

RESEARCH AND MEDICAL EDUCATION

Research and Medical Education are key components of the mission of the VA New England Healthcare System. Network 1 is affiliated with many of the premier medical schools in the world:

- ★ Boston University School of Medicine
- ★ Brown Medical School
- ★ Dartmouth Medical School
- ★ Harvard Medical School
- ★ Tufts University School of Medicine
- ★ University of Connecticut Health Science Center
- ★ University of Massachusetts School of Medicine
- ★ University of New England School of Osteopathic Medicine
- ★ University of Vermont School of Medicine
- ★ Yale University School of Medicine

Our facilities provide training and education for medical students, residents, nurses, allied health professionals, and administrative interns. Many Network 1 staff hold faculty appointments at the affiliated medical schools and participate in world class residency and specialty training programs. Education is an important mission with a dollar allocation of over \$25 million in FY 2005. Network 1 is among the leading VISNs in research in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), with funding exceeding \$31.8 million

in FY 2005. Many Network 1 researchers have received

national prestigious awards for recognition of their research achievements. Network 1 recognizes the critical role of research in providing care to veterans and the need to link research with veteran patient needs. Key research topics include:

★ Aging ★ Hepatitis C and Liver Disease

★ Infectious Diseases including HIV ★ Alzheimer's Disease

★ Alcoholism/ ★ Kidney Disease Substance Abuse

★ Mental Illness ★ Arthritis ★ Neurobiology ★ Cancer

★ Ophthalmology ★ Cardiovascular Disease ★ Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Stroke

★ Prostate Disease ★ Diabetes

★ Rehabilitation Research ★ Disease Prevention ★ Sleep Disorders ★ Endocrinology ★ Smoking Cessation ★ Gastrointestinal Disorders ★ Spinal Cord Injury

★ Gulf War Illness

★ Surgery ★ Healthcare Quality and **Outcomes Management** ★ Telemedicine ★ Heart Surgery ★ Women's Health

VA ENROLLMENT & BENEFITS QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q. Who is eligible to receive health care through the VA system?

Any individual who served on active duty in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard, and received honorable discharge or release under honorable conditions has eligibility for VA health care. Those who served after 1980 must have served 24 months active duty to be eligible.

Q. How do I apply?

Veterans can apply for enrollment in the VA health care system by completing VA Form 10-10EZ, Application for Health Benefits. Application forms can be obtained from any VA health care facility, from VA's Health Benefits Service Center at 1-877-222-VETS (8387) or accessed from the Web at http://www.va.gov/1010ez.htm.

Q. What services can I receive?

All necessary inpatient and outpatient services including preventive and primary care, diagnostic and treatment services as well as rehabilitation, mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, home health, respite and hospice care, women's clinic and prescribed drugs.

Q. What does VA care cost me?

While many veterans qualify for cost-free health care services based on a compensable service-connected condition or other qualifying factor, veterans are required to complete an annual financial assessment or Means Test. Veterans whose income and net worth exceed the established Means Test threshold, as well as those who choose not to complete the financial assessment, must agree to pay required co-payments to become eligible for VA health care services. New veterans who apply for enrollment after January 16, 2003, and who decline to provide income information, are not eligible for enrollment. Co-payment rates can be obtained at any VA health care facility or on the Web at http://www.va.gov/elig.

Q. Are there restrictions on getting care in private facilities at VA expenses?

To qualify for routine care at non-VA facilities at VA expense, you must first be given specific authorization by your VA provider. Included among the factors in determining whether such care will be authorized is your medical condition and availability of VA services within your geographic area.

Q. Am I eligible for emergency care at non-VA facilities?

You are eligible if the non-VA emergency care is for a serviceconnected condition or, if enrolled, you have been provided

care by a VA clinician or provider within the past 24 months and have no other health care coverage or ability to pay for the services. It must be determined that VA health care facilities were not feasibly available; that a delay in medical attention would have endangered your life or health.

Q. Is VA approval needed before I obtain non-VA emergency services? While approval is not required, notification to the nearest VA health care facility must be made within 48 hours if hospitalization is required. VA payment is limited up to the point your condition is stable for transportation to a VA facility.

Q. What if I get sick while traveling?

VA enrollment also allows health care benefits to be portable throughout the VA system. Enrolled veterans who are traveling may obtain care at any VA health care facility across the country.

- Q. Will VA take care of my nursing home needs?
 While some veterans qualify for indefinite nursing home care services, other veterans may qualify for a limited period of time. Individuals who automatically qualify for indefinite nursing home care are veterans whose service-connected condition is clinically determined to require nursing home care and veterans with a
- service-connected disability rating of 70% or more.

 Q. Can I get free prescriptions from VA?

 Medications are provided to veterans who are enrolled with the VA and receive health care provided by a VA primary care provider. Medications are prescribed for treatment of a condition for which they are receiving health care from the VA provider.
- Depending on service connected status, there may be a copayment required for medications.
- Q. Can I get dental care?
 - Generally, dental benefits are limited to service connected dental conditions or to veterans who are permanently and totally disabled from service connected causes.
- Q. Does VA provide maternity services?
- Maternity services are provided in non-VA contracted hospitals at VA expense. Care is limited to the mother. Costs for care of the newborn are not covered.
- Q. Lam a returning Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation Enduring Freedom veteran. I registered with the VBA (benefits) does that mean that I am now automatically registered in the VHA (hospital) system?

 No, that means you have filed a claim for a service connected rating or benefits. To register in the VHA medical system, you must fill out a 10-10EZ form (see above).

VETERANS OUTREACH CENTERS

CONNECTICUT

141 Captain Thomas

New Haven

Boulevard West Haven, CT 06516 (203) 932-9899

Sanford

68 Main Street Springvale, ME

04083 (207) 490-1513

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Manchester 103 Liberty Street Manchester, NH

(603) 668-7060

03104

Norwich

2 Cliff Street

Norwich, CT 06360 (860) 887-1755

Wethersfield

30 Jordan Lane Wethersfield, CT 06109 (860) 563-2320

MAINE

Bangor In Town Plaza

352 Harlow Street Bangor, ME 04401 (207) 947-3391 or (207) 947-3392

Caribou

Irving Complex 456 York Street Caribou, ME 04736 (207) 496-3900

Lewiston

Parkway Complex 29 Westminister St. Lewiston, ME 04240 (207) 783-0068

Portland

475 Stevens Avenue Portland, ME 04103 (207) 780-3584

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston

665 Beacon Street Boston, MA 02215

(617) 424-0665

Brockton

1041-L Pearl Street Brockton, MA 02401 (508) 580-2730

Lowell

73 F. Merrimack St. Lowell, MA 01852 (978) 453-1151

New Bedford

468 North Street New Bedford, MA 02740 (508) 999-6920

Springfield

1985 Main Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413) 737-5167

Worcester

597 Lincoln Street Worcester, MA 01605 (508) 856-7428

RHODE ISLAND Warwick

2038 Warwick Avenue Warwick, RI 02889 (401) 739-0167

VERMONT

South Burlington 359 Dorset Street South Burlington, VT 05401 (802) 862-1806

White River Junction

2 Gilman Office Complex 222 Holiday Inn Drive White River Junction, VT 05001 (802) 295-2908 or Toll-free:

(800) 649-6603

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OTHER VA RESOURCES

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION (VBA)

Connecticut

VBA Regional Office - Hartford VA Connecticut Healthcare System, Newington Campus 555 Willard Ave., Bldg. 2E, 3rd Floor Newington CT 06111 (Mailing address) P.O. Box 310909 Newington, CT 06131-0909

Maine

Maine

(800) 827-1000

VBA Regional Office 1 VA Center Augusta, ME 04330 (800) 827-1000

Massachusetts

VBA Regional Office JFK Federal Bldg., Gov't. Center Boston, MA 02203 (800) 827-1000

New Hampshire

VBA Regional Office 275 Chestnut St. Manchester, NH 03101 (800) 827-1000

Rhode Island

VBA Regional Office 380 Westminister Street Providence, RI 02903-3246 (800) 827-1000

Vermont

VBA Regional Office 215 North Main St. White River Junction, VT 05009 (800) 827-1000

NATIONAL CEMETERY SERVICE

Manie	
Togus National Cemetery	
A	

Augusta, ME 04330 For information please contact: Massachusetts National Cemetery at (508) 563-7113.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts National Cemetery Bourne, MA 02532 Phone: (508) 563-7113

VA Benefits Information	(800) 827-1000
VA Burial Headstones & Markers	(800) 697-6947
VA Insurance Center	(800) 669-8477
Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance	(800) 827-0611
Eligibility Hotline	(877) 222-8387
Persian Gulf Helpline	(800) 749-8387
Health Administrative Center	
(including. CHAMPVA)	(800) 733-8387
Debt Management Center	.(800) 827-0648
Telecommunication Device	
for the Deaf (TDD)	(800) 829-4833
VA on the Internet	www.va.gov

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS RESOURCES

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BURIAL AND MEMORIAL BENEFITS



www.cem.va.gov

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION



www.vba.va.gov

COMPENSATION AND PENSION BENEFITS



www.vba.va.gov/bln/21

IRAQI FREEDOM



www.seamless transition.va.gov

OF VETTILES OF

www.va.gov

WOMEN VETERANS



www1.va.gov/ womenvet

MY HEALTHeVET



www.myhealth.va.gov

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION



EDUCATION



www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre

www.gibill.va.gov